

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| In re Patent Application of   | ) |                   |
|                               | ) |                   |
| Toshiyuki ZENTO et al.        | ) | Group Art Unit:   |
|                               | ) |                   |
| Application No.: Unassigned   | ) | Examiner:         |
|                               | ) |                   |
| Filed: June 22, 2006          | ) | Confirmation No.: |
|                               | ) |                   |
| For: METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF | ) |                   |
| TUBULAR ARTICLE               | ) |                   |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, kindly  
  
amend the application as follows.